



November - January 1942  
Quarterly Narrative Report

Easement Refuges  
District IV

Lake Patricia

Water Conditions: December 11, 1941. 4 feet below spillway.

This area was visited once during the quarter by Mr. Einkins. On that visit, December 11, 70 ducks were observed in a small hole which they had kept open in the ice. All of the ducks were Mallards.

The structures were inspected and found to be in good condition. Arrangements were made with a local farmer who lives near the refuge, and owns some of the land flooded by our dam, to keep the diversion ditch free of all weeds and thistles during the spring runoff. This will be of decided benefit to us, as it is almost impossible to anticipate the date of the runoff and is likewise impracticable to try to clean the ditch much in advance of the runoff.

A trapping permit was issued to Mr. John Miller, permitting him to trap predators on lands owned or leased by him within the refuge.

Charles Lake

Water Conditions: December 11, 1941. 1.4 feet below spillway.

This area was also visited in December by Mr. Dininns. On the date of inspection, the lake was completely frozen over and no ducks were observed. One covey of partridges and 5 pheasants were seen.

The dam and spillway were inspected and found to be in good condition, with the exception of the wing wall on the primary spillway which has been cracked for sometime.

### Stewart Lake

Water Conditions: November 7, 1941. Spillway discharging a small stream of water.

When Mr. Einkins inspected this refuge, November 7, the dam and spillway were found to be in good condition. He observed about 18000 ducks, principally Mallards, although 14 Buffleheads, 7 Hooded Mergansers, and 7 Scaup were definitely identified.

The recreational area on this refuge was also inspected, and the bath houses cleaned and closed for the winter.

### White Lake

When visited by Mr. Dinkins on November 7, 1941, the water level was 4 feet below spillway. This is about the same as the water level last year at this time.

The structures were inspected and all weeds removed from the spillway. The dam was in good condition, with the exception of the fact that there has been some erosion caused by rain. This structure is constructed of bentonite like soil, and no vegetation will grow thereon. The rains have always caused some erosion, but this year with the unusually heavy rainfall the erosion was greater than usual. It is not serious enough yet to cause any concern over the safety of the structure.

A trapping permit has been issued to Mr. Albert Reveling, a local farmer, to trap predators on this refuge.

### Clearwater Lake.

This refuge was not visited this quarter. As there are no structures on the area it does not receive or require the attention given the other refuges. When last visited the water level was normal.



Lake Susie ✓

Water Conditions: November 16, 1941. 1 foot below the spillway crest. The lake was entirely frozen over.

When visited by Mr. Einkins in November approximately 3000 Mallards were observed in a small open area in the ice. The structures were in good condition. Some sign of muskrats near the dam was noted, but no recent activity was evident. There were a few small cracks in the rubble masonry spillway, caused by settling and frost. These will be repaired before the spring runoff.

Legion Lake. ✓

Water Conditions: November 12, 1941. Level with spillway.

November 16, 1941. Level with spillway and completely frozen over. The water level at this time last year was at least 1 foot below spillway crest.

Mr. Einkins observed approximately 3000 Mallards on both of his visits to the refuge during this quarter, on the last visit the ducks were keeping a small hole open in the ice. When visited by the writer and Mr. Gillett on January 24 no waterfowl were present on the area.

The dam and spillway on this area are in good condition and no repairs are required. There are no weeds or growths to impede the runoff.

A trapping permit was issued to Mr. L. E. Turner and J. B. Price to trap predators on lands owned or leased by them within the refuge.

Hiddenwood Lake. ✓

There are no structures on this area, hence no water levels can be given. It appears, however, to have considerably more water than last year at this time.



When visited by Mr. Dinkins on November 16, the entire lake was frozen over, however, 36 Mallards were observed. This lake is a solid mass of hardstem, and a considerable number of muskrat houses throughout the marsh were noted. The shore line of the lake is covered by a thick growth of brush, and offers excellent upland game cover. Mr. Dinkins a large number of pheasants on the area, and tracks in the light snow indicated a fairly heavy concentration there.

#### Lake Zahl

Water Conditions: November 9, 1941. The area south of the railroad was dry, but the units north of the railroad were in excellent condition. The lakes were completely frozen over, except for a small area of open water kept open by some 17000 ducks, all Mallards, observed by Mr. Dinkins.

The structures on this area were found to be in good condition, when inspected by Mr. Dinkins in November. One day was spent in patrol on the refuge and vicinity as there were numerous hunters afield. No violators were apprehended, although many licenses were checked.

A trapping permit has been issued to Mr. Albert Esterby, who lives on the refuge and operates the farm of Mrs. Zahl for whom the refuge is named, to trap predators.

#### Shell Lake

Water Conditions: November 16, 1941. The lake was full and a small stream of water was flowing out of the creek for which this lake is the headwater. This creek is known as Shell Creek and it has been flowing all summer and fall.

When visited in November by Mr. Dinkins about 20000 Mallard ducks were observed. The lake is large and the wind kept it from freezing for a considerable time after the neighboring small ponds and sloughs were all frozen over. There was also an abundance of feed available to the ducks in nearby fields.

#### Pretty Rock Lake

Water Conditions: December 10, 1941. The lake was completely frozen, and the water level was 1.5 feet below spillway crest.

When visited by Mr. Dinkins in December, 80 Mallards were on the refuge, keeping a small hole open in the ice. Some minor cracks were repaired in the spillway with tar and hemp, and all the weeds were cleared out of the spillway. Aside from these minor repairs the structures were all in good condition. This refuge goes into the spring with the best supply of water it has had in the spring since it was constructed.

#### Lake Ilo

##### Weather Conditions:

	Snowfall	Rainfall	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.
November	2"	.13	63	7 below
December	1"	.07	58	-8 "
January	None	None	57	34 "
Total	3"	.20	Extremes 63	34 "

Water Conditions: The water level was .5 of a foot below spillway on November 22, at which date the lake froze over. The ice on the lake at the close of the quarter was 18 inches thick. There has been some open water during the entire period with the exception of a short period early in January. At present the open water approximates 10 aares.

Wildlife:

Mr. Dinkins reports that there were 33000 ducks and 23 Canada Geese on the lake November 1, 50000 ducks and 50 Canada Geese on November 19. At least 95% of the above numbers of ducks were Mallards, the balance pintail and scaup in about equal numbers. There were 6000 ducks on the area November 23, 3000 December 6, and approximately 2000 on December 25, all were Mallards. At the present time there are still 2000 Mallards on Lake Ilo, fortunately the winter has been open, and food available in nearby fields so that feeding has been unnecessary to date. Mr. Dinkins made numerous attempts to drive these birds out, but met with no success, they always returned in a hour or two. It would seem that they have no desire to go south, and we think it very unlikely that they will do so at this late date.

On January 7 a duck trap was set on the creek below the dam. On the 8th, 9th, and 10th 79 Mallards were banded here. Eleven of these were previously banded, ten of them on Lake Ilo in 1940 and 1941. This would tend to indicate that at least a part of the 2000 ducks now on the area are making it their winter home and have done so for a couple of years. We have always had ducks at Lake Ilo through out the winter.

Due to the open winter and the lack of feed on the Lake Ilo Refuge most of the upland game birds have sought haven elsewhere. An estimate of the upland game population shows only 50 pheasants, and 100 Hungarian Partridge on the refuge at the present time.

There are very few muskrats on the refuge. The few that are present inhabit the creek channels and do not bother the structures.



There are quite a few mink on the refuge. Mr. Dinkins has been successful in trapping three during December and January, but he estimates that there are several times that many on the area. It seems that they travel little due to the fact that fish are available as food, and this makes trapping of them difficult.

Mr. Dinkins has trapped seventeen skunks on Lake Ilo during December and January. It is his opinion that this about cleans out the skunk on the area.

Mr. Dinkins has two coyote traps set on the refuge, but so far has not caught any coyotes. There is a government trapper operating in Dunn County, and he has succeeded in taking quite a number of coyotes, some in the vicinity of the refuge. At any rate coyotes are present in sufficient numbers throughout the territory to avoid the usual complaint that the refuge is harboring all of them.

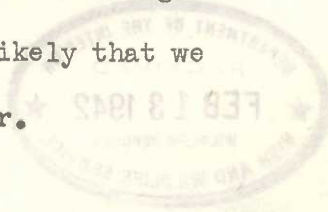
#### Refuge Development and Maintenance.

There has been no WPA project in operation at Lake Ilo during the quarter, and all the development and maintenance has been carried on by Mr. Dinkins.

He has painted all the storm sashes for the various buildings. Moved the small government owned building from its original location below the dam to the headquarters site. This building is used to store the coal used in heating the government owned garage at the headquarters. The roads and trails on the refuge were bladed, and the weeds removed, with borrowed equipment. The light plant transferred from Long Lake, was installed with a proper ground. All the trees in the recreational area were painted with rabbit repellent paint, and the markers on the

recreational area. He has, of course, carried on his usual duties of servicing the government equipment and maintaining the buildings.

Our WPA project proposal included the construction of a pump house pit and water system. According to WPA regulations the plans for such installation must be approved by the State Health Department before they can be accepted by WPA. The said Health Department has refused to approve our plans, in spite of the fact that we have put the matter up to them with all possible arguments. It seems that they take the position that a well pit of any nature is detrimental to health. Consequently we have had to abandon this plan and our WPA project for the time being. We have had considerable difficulty with the old well, over which the well house was to be constructed, and it would have required the installation of new casing in order make it serviceable. In view of these facts it was determined that our best plan, and perhaps the cheapest in the long run, would be to drill a new well adjacent to the residence and install our pump and pressure system in the basement. Accordingly we are going ahead under that plan. The new well was started during the period but not completed by January 31. The construction of the pit and the installation of the pressure system in the basement will be relatively simple and Mr. Dinkins will accomplish the construction without awaiting the aid of WPA. Under the present conditions it seems unlikely that we will be able to get a WPA project for sometime, if ever.



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August - Oct. 1941

Easement Refuges  
District IV

Lake Patricia

Water Conditions: 9-12-41 - 3 feet below spillway crest.

10-11-41 - 3.5 feet " " "

This area was visited in September by Mr. Dinkins and the writer. At that time 150 ducks were observed, principally mallards and pintails. ✓ 200 coots ✓ and 4 ✓ western grebe were also seen.

The refuge was in better condition than the writer has ever seen it, more water being present than it has ever had immediately after the spring runoff. A good growth of hardstem bulrush and prairie bulrush is coming along the borders of the water area. There were a number of slicks, probably sago pondweed, on the water. These growths indicate that some of the plantings made in former years are taking hold.

The spillway and dam needed nothing in the way of repair, although the diversion ditch will need cleaning before next spring.

The reposting of the area with the new signs has been completed and satisfactorily so.

Charles Lake.

Water Conditions: 9-12-41 - one foot below spillway.

10-11-41 - .8 below spillway.

This area was also visited this fall by the writer and Mr. Dinkins in early September. At that time the only wildlife was one Great Blue Heron ✓ and five ducks. It was somewhat of a disappointment not to see more wildlife on this refuge, but that is explained by the fact that the area was opened to fishing this year. It is not large enough to provide any area for wildlife when used for fishing. Mr. Dinkins observed some 300 ducks on the refuge in October, however, so perhaps it has value as a resting pond during the migration and hunting

season.

A marginal growth of hardstem and prairie bulrush is evident, as well as a fair growth of willows. There was some sago drift along the shoreline.

The wingwall on the primary spillway is cracked. This particular wall has been repaired in the past, but it continues to give trouble. Permanent repairs can only be made by rebuilding the wall. It is not likely that the wall will crack more, and in any event it is not felt that the area warrants further expenditures.

The area has been reposted with the new markers.

#### Stewart Lake.

The spillway was discharging a small stream when last inspected by Mr. Dinkins on October 12. This is the first time this lake has been full since the spring of 1939. Last year at this time it was between three and four feet below spillway. The heavy rains and a six inch snowfall, which quickly melted, supplied the water.

When discharging the water seemed to percolate through the riprapped spillway coming up again on the lower apron. This situation is not serious as the spillway is constructed of about six to eight feet of rock packed with gravel. Some additional rock and gravel may be required at some future date, but there is no danger of the spillway washing out with only a periodic discharge.

The writer did not have an opportunity to visit the area this fall, but Mr. Dinkins reports some 8000 ducks, principally mallards, pintails, and blue-winged teal. He also reports muskrat, mink, and skunk evidence. No rat damage to the dam was observed.

Area reported posted with the new signs.

### White Lake.

When visited by Mr. Dinkins on 10-12-41 the water level was .2 below the spillway crest. This is about the level of the water last year at this time.

2600 ducks and 31 White-fronted Geese were observed during the October inspection.

This area, especially the main body of water, is absolutely devoid of aquatic vegetation. The lake bottom is solid bentonite, which goes into suspension making the water so turbid that no vegetation has a chance to grow.

There are some signs of muskrat and skunk on the refuge, but no damage was apparent.

This area has also been completely reposted.

### Clearwater.

This refuge was not visited this quarter either by Mr. Dinkins or the writer. It is safe to assume that the water level is as high if not higher than last year. No information is available regarding the wildlife population, but the area usually harbors a fair number of birds during the migration and hunting season.

This area is also reposted.

### Lake Susie.

Water Conditions: 9-13-41 - six inches below spillway.

10-14-41 - six inches below spillway.

When visited by the writer in September approximately 600 ducks were observed; mallards, blue and green-winged teal, pintails, some shovellers, gadwall, and 20 ruddy ducks were seen. Also a Great Blue Heron, 4 Black-crowned Night Heron, 2 American Bittern, 50 Ring-billed Gulls, 25 Phalarope, and 50 Coot. In October Mr. Dinkins observed



150 ducks, 200 coots, and 10 Franklin's Gulls.

There is no noticeable growth of emergent vegetation, although there is a fair growth of sago. The area is badly in need of some food and cover, but it is senseless to plant anything unless it can be fenced. The upland and margins are very heavily grazed.

Some erosion has occurred on the dam. Nothing to cause great concern, but a few loads of rock will be placed at the first opportunity to prevent further damage. There are also some cracks in the spillway which will be filled with tar and hemp.

There is a possibility of muskrat damage on this refuge. The removal of these rats is desirable.

This refuge has been reposted.

#### Legion Lake.

Water Conditions: 9-13-41 - .2 below spillway.

10-5-41 - .2 below spillway.

The water level was better than a foot below spillway last year at this time.

When visited in September there were only a very few ducks on the lake. Some fifteen to twenty thousand were observed on Muskrat and Mud Lakes in the immediate vicinity of Legion. Mr. Dinkins reports 9000 ducks and 86 White-fronted Geese on the refuge in October. This confirms the belief that the ducks, after the opening of the hunting season, would desert the open lakes and seek the protection of the refuge.

Some bulrush, probably hardstem, was evident on the far shore and islands. More could be planted to advantage. No pondweeds were found but the water was so turbid that it is unlikely that they will grow.

The dam and spillway were in a good state of repair, and no maintenance seemed required.

The new markers have all been erected here too.

#### Hiddenwood Lake.

There are no structures on this area but the water level appeared to be up considerably over last year and the previous years of the drought.

This lake is a solid mass of hardstem bulrush. It would only be improved by providing more open water. If anything the bulrush is too thick.

At first glance one would assume that there were only a very few ducks on the area, but the blowing of car horn, or discharge of a gun, and the entire lake rises in a mass. We estimated that there were from 6000 to 7000 ducks on the area in September, and Mr. Dinkins reported 8000 there in October.

An excellent natural area, one of the best natural easement refuges in the state, both for nesting and resting.

The area has been reposted.

#### Lake Zahl.

When visited in September with Mr. Dinkins and again in October with Mr. Krummes the area south of the railroad was completely dry but the units north of the railroad were in excellent condition. The south lake lies over a strata of gravel, with only a few inches of muck for a seal. Hence the infiltration is exceptionally great. The south lake has carried through to the fall but will do so only when completely filled in the spring. The north units are so worthwhile, however, that this can be considered one of the best easement refuges even if the south lake never had a drop of water.

In September the duck population was upwards of 6000, mallards and pintails predominantly. There were even more ducks on the area in October, and 6 Whistling Swan were then observed. Some 2000 Coot were on the refuge in September.

Also reposted.

#### Shell Lake.

This is also a natural lake and has no structures. It is the headwater of Shell Creek, however, and the creek has been running all summer. A small stream was running out of the lake when visited September 13 and October 5; this means that the lake is two feet higher than last year at this time.

When visited in September approximately 1000 ducks were observed, some mallards, pintails, teal, but the majority were diving ducks. In October Mr. Dinkins estimated about three times that many birds on the area.

There is a marsh area at the upper end of this lake that would be a valuable addition to the refuge. Attempts to secure an easement on this marsh have been unsuccessful in the past, but at least one more attempt will be made.

This area has also been reposted.

#### Pretty Rock.

The water level here was one foot below spillway on both September 12 and October 11. The highest it has ever been at this time of year, and about a foot and a half higher than last year.

Some 3000 ducks were observed. Mostly mallards and pintails were seen, although baldpates, some redheads, and both species of teal were noted. Three Great Blue Heron were also seen. In October Mr. Dinkins reports 7000 ducks, of which 80% were mallards and the balance pintails.



The erosion previously reported on the dam at this point seems to have taken care of itself. It has beached out very nicely and it is unlikely that it will erode any further. There are some cracks in the spillway which will be repaired with tar and hemp.

This area should be planted to bulrush. There is some prairie bulrush in evidence which will probably spread, but the few spikes of hardstem have all been grazed down by cattle. However, there is no point in making further plantings unless a portion of the area can be fenced. It appears that sago is getting started as some slicks were noted.

This area has been completely reposted.

#### Lake Oliver.

The water level here was 1.5 feet below spillway on September 12, and 2 feet below spillway on October 26.

When visited by the writer and Mr. Dinkins in September 600 ducks and 800 Coots were on the refuge. Also a few shorebirds were observed. In October Mr. Dinkins reports 2000 ducks, principally mallards and pintails.

There is a fair growth of sago in this lake, but the bulrush have all been cropped off at the ground by cattle. Fencing, at least a portion,, of this area is certainly desirable and necessary if emergents are to grow.

The dam and spillway were in good condition, although there are minor cracks in the spillway which will be repaired with tar and hemp. The weeds on the auxilliary spillway will be removed before the spring runoff.

The reposting here is complete.

## Lake Ilo.

### I. General.

#### A. Weather Conditions.

	<u>Snowfall</u>	<u>Rainfall</u>	<u>Max.</u> <u>Temp.</u>	<u>Min.</u> <u>Temp.</u>
August		2.03	105	37
September		4.18	90	27
October	10"	1.29	77	11
	<u>10"</u>	7.50 Extreme	105	11

B. Water Conditions. The water level here was .4 of a foot below spillway on July 31 and .3 of a foot below on October 31. The wind has caused almost a continual trickle of water to flow over the spillway all summer. This is the best season Lake Ilo has ever had. The slough to the southeast of the main lake has maintained a good level of water throughout the summer and fall.

### II. Wildlife.

A. Waterbirds: Mr. Dinkins estimated that there were 7000 ducks on Lake Ilo in August, mallards, gadwall, pintail, teal, shoveller, and scaup. As the migration started their numbers increased to approximately 16000 on September 15 and on October 29 there were 30000 on the area. Eighty-five percent of these were mallards, ten percent pintail, and the other five percent shovellers, redheads, canvasback, scaup, gadwall, and American mergansers.

On September 28, 600 White-fronted Geese were observed; 480 of these birds went south on October 26, the balance were still on the refuge at the close of the quarter. Several small flocks of Canada Geese visited the refuge in October, and 23 were still there on October 31.

As there are no refuge or sharecrop fields on the refuge all of the ducks have had to feed in privately owned fields. Naturally there have been numerous complaints. It is not strange that complaints continued to come in after opening of the hunting season, as the

hunters claim that the ducks carry watches, always leave the field ten minutes before sunrise, and come out to feed at 4:10 P.M. Mr. Dinkins has advised the local farmers on the use of flares, and in some instances has used his shotgun in place of bombs to frighten the birds. Such a practice is of little value, as the birds merely take to another field, but it satisfies the farmer that we are trying to cooperate.

B. Upland Game Birds. There is really little upland game cover on Lake Ilo, most of the refuge being privately owned and either cropped or grazed. The upland game population has never been large for that reason. Once we acquire title to certain of these lands, now under negotiation, the planting of food and cover shrubs will be desirable.

Mr. Dinkins estimates that there are 20 Sharp-tailed Grouse, 75 Pheasant, and about 100 Hungarian Partridge on Lake Ilo at the present time. This is approximately the number present last year, indicating that the birds suffer few losses during the hunting season.

C. Fur-bearing Animals.

Muskrat: There is not a large population of muskrat on the refuge. The few present inhabit the creek channels and do not bother our structures.

Mink: There are noticeable signs of mink on the refuge, particularly below the spillway where numerous tracks were noted during the writer's last inspection trip. An attempt will be made to reduce their number through trapping this fall and winter.

Skunk: Mr. Dinkins reports that there are at least 25 skunks at the refuge, and that tracks have been observed all along the shoreline. We hope to trap out most of these animals this season.



Coyotes: No coyotes are reported on the refuge, but there are certainly a number present in the vicinity. Mr. Dinkins had the opportunity to accompany Mr. Cheney of the Division of Predator and Rodent Control on some coyote work, and thereby gained experience which will be of value in future coyote trapping.

D. Fish. Crappies, Blue-gill, and Perch seem to be quite plentiful in Lake Ilo. During a special three day season this year many fishermen made good catches. Many of these fish are observed below the spillway in the stilling pool after the wind has blown water over the spillway. The State planted 15,000 Crappies in Lake Ilo on October 17, 1941.

### III. Refuge Development and Maintenance.

As we have not had a WPA project on Lake Ilo since June 30, all of the development has been by Mr. Dinkins.

During the quarter he constructed a foundation and installed the light plant--transferred from Long Lake--in the basement of the residence. He painted the storage building located below the dam; constructed a fence around this building and along the north side of the spillway. Covered the furnace with asbestos paper and applied aluminum paint thereto. Maintained refuge roads, and mowed weeds with borrowed equipment; covered roofs of storage buildings with tar paper to prevent leakage, and maintained and serviced buildings, equipment.

### IV. Public Relations.

#### A. Recreational Use.

1. As usual Lake Ilo was the most popular recreational center that the entire territory had. The park area was used quite extensively for picnics and gatherings until the weather turned cold. There were from 50 to 100 people swimming and boating on Lake Ilo every day during the forepart of August.

2. Hunting: The upland game season was very satisfactory to all the hunters in the territory. Much better than in previous years.

The waterfowl season has been the most successful in many years. Local hunters managed to bag 13 geese in the vicinity of Lake Ilo. One old timer who has hunted that territory for 40 years shot his first goose this fall. Needless to say he is a strong booster for the refuge now, although it is our understanding that he was one of our worst critics in the past.

B. Violations. Mr. Dinkins assisted State Warden E. Holt in apprehending Mr. Leonard Marthaller of Taylor, N. Dak. for illegal trapping of skunks. A plea of guilty was entered, a fine of \$15.00 and costs assessed, and the seven skunks he had in his possession confiscated.



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Easement Refuges  
District IV

May - July 1941

As all available information on the easement refuges was included in our annual report, and as there has been no inspection either by Mr. Dinkins or the writer since that report we will not attempt to treat each refuge separately.

Generally speaking the water levels on all the easement refuges are satisfactory, with the possible exception of Lake Zahl, the lower portion of which is lower than desirable.

All of the easement refuges in this district have been completely posted with the new signs.

We plan to attempt to secure special licenses from the various landowners on the easement refuges giving us authority to fence out desirable nesting cover. We are not very optimistic about the possibility as it will mean that the landowner must donate additional lands for which he receives little in return. We know that it is practically useless to attempt to get such licenses from non-resident landowners and will confine our activities along this line of endeavor to resident owners, at least for the time being. Mr. Dinkins and the writer have studied each project to determine which areas it would be desirable to fence, and will contact the various landowners at the first opportunity. If portions of the areas can be fenced out it will most certainly enhance the value of the refuges and we will exert our best efforts to carry out the proposal.

Lake Ilo: The only item of importance not included in our annual report is the Dedication Celebration of Lake Ilo on July 5 and 6.

Perhaps the simplest method of reporting this celebration is



to attach the souvenir program and make it a part of this report.

We wish to call attention to a few errors in the statistics contained in this program. None of the figures on yardage, acre-feet or cost are accurate. Neither is the spillway rubble masonry. These errors are of minor consequence but are not correct and should not be quoted. Also previous commitments made it impossible for Mr. Maurek to be present at the celebration and the writer served as a poor substitute.

It was very gratifying to note the enthusiasm of the local people in regard to this area. It is estimated that from 3000 to 4000 people participated in the dedication and all were profuse in their statements of appreciation for this area. The beauty of it is that we have developed a very worthwhile wildlife refuge and have at the same time earned the undying gratitude of the general public by giving them a recreational area. If the refuge did no more than this it would be money well spent.

The writer hopes and plans to visit each of the easement refuges in this district during the current quarter, and will endeavor to gather some interesting facts concerning each for the next narrative report.

*Souvenir Program*

DEDICATION CELEBRATION  
of  
LAKE ILO



Lake Ilo

**DUNN CENTER, N. DAK.**  
**Saturday and Sunday, July 5 and 6, 1941**

Under Auspices of  
Dunn Center Community Club



CALL FOR  
*Schmidt's*  
City Club

*Tops All Northwest's* BEERS

*Schlitz*

THE BEER THAT MADE MILWAUKEE FAMOUS

CALL FOR  
CALVERT FOUR ROSES

OLD DRUM

*JIM BEAM*

or Paul Jones

J. B. CELLA BRANDY

*whiskies*

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ROMA VINTAGE

Every bottle bears the California Vintage date

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*A brand of good wines to fit the smallest family budget*

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DICKINSON, NORTH DAKOTA

## LAKE ILO

An idea was conceived along in 1925 that a dam could be built to create a lake just west of Dunn Center, in Dunn County, and a number of interested business men organized a stock company and sold shares to raise sufficient funds to complete the project. This corporation did not succeed very well and ceased to exist after a time and the original idea became a matter of history.

It was not until 1935 when the matter was presented in the form of application to one of the W.P.A. Engineers, that anything was done about formulating plans for making this a federal project. With his aid the applications were sent through different channels. A meeting was called at Dunn Center September 26, 1935 for the purpose of learning of ways and means of getting this dam.

At that meeting a committee was named by the acting chairman of the Dunn Center Civic Club to secure easements on land affected by the lake and dam. Another Committee, known as the Lake Promotion Committee, was appointed. The untiring efforts of these committees together with those of other interested parties were expended in attempts to obtain the assistance of both CCC and WPA. After many unsuccessful endeavors and much correspondence with officials in nearly every capacity from the local to the President of the United States and contacts with Senators it was learned that the United States Biological Survey were interested in just that kind of thing.

The committee then got in touch with M. O. Steen, Project Administrator, U. S. Biological Survey at Bismarck and in a short time the building of the dam was underway, with W. O. Karpenko, in charge of construction as Supervising Engineer. And work speeded along toward completion at a rapid rate.

The Dunn Center Civic Club and the other commercial and civic bodies of the various towns in the county are to be credited with getting one of the finest and largest projects allowed in North Dakota.

The construction of this dam by the Biological Survey operated with Emergency Drought Funds using all relief labor and equipment providing employment for 300 men. Horses, caterpillars, trucks, muckers and wagons which otherwise would have been idle were put to work to build a dam of earth 1600 feet long, 400 feet wide at the bottom of dam, 80 feet across the top and about 33 feet high at low point, that backs 27 feet of water, maximum depth. There is a 10 to 1 slope upstream and 2 to 1 slope downstream.

The structure contains 125,000 yards of earth and impounds 7,000 acre feet of water over an area of 1300 acres.

The spill-way is of rubble masonry 125 feet long.

Nesting grounds have been provided for migratory fowl, also several fish plantings have been made.

An area has been set aside as a Recreation Park, it has since been planted with trees, and also provides a sandy beach and bath-houses for bathers, and tables, benches and fire-places for picnickers or campers.

The cost of this project was approximately \$60,000 and was provided for by the Biological Survey.

**A LASTING MONUMENT TO THOSE WHOSE EFFORTS, TIME AND MONEY WENT INTO IT AND A SOURCE OF PRIDE AND PLEASURE FOR THOSE WHO WILL COME AFTER.**

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JULY 5TH AND 6TH

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Dunn Center, N. Dak.

**EVENSON BROS.**  
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**KILLDEER MERC. CO.**  
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**CITY MERCANTILE CO.**  
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Dunn Center, North Dakota

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GOOD CLEAN ROOMS AND BEDS

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Werner, North Dakota

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## WERNER MEAT MARKET

Werner, North Dakota

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## Valley Hotel & Restaurant

Werner, North Dakota



## INDEPENDENCE DAY PROGRAM

Lake Ilo — Dunn Center, N. D. — 1:30 P. M. — July 4, 1941

Address of Welcome ..... Carl Sword  
Officer of the Day

Vocal Solo, "Star Spangled Banner" .. Miss Stella Thompson

Reading of the Declaration of Independence—J. A. Berdahl

Song, "America, The Beautiful" ..... Ladies Trio  
Misses Stella Thompson, Christina Sword, Marjorie Berdahl

Independence Day Oration .... H. M. Pippin, Halliday, N. D.

Vocal Solo, "God Bless America".... Miss Stella Thompson

God Bless America, Land that I Love

Stand beside her and guide her

Through the night with a light from above;

From the mountains, to the prairies,

To the oceans, white with foam,

God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home,

God Bless America, My Home Sweet Home,



## LAKE ILO DEDICATION PROGRAM

Lake Ilo — 1:30 P. M. — Sunday, July 6, 1941

Concert ..... Dickinson City Band

Introductory Address ..... H. M. Pippin, Halliday, N. D.  
Master of Ceremonies

Vocal Solo, "Trees" ..... Miss Stella Thompson

Address ..... Mr. Burnie Maurek  
Director Fish and Wild Life Service, Minneapolis

Song, "North Dakota" ..... Ladies Trio  
Misses Stella Thompson, Christina Sword, Marjorie Berdahl

Short Addresses ..... By Interesting Visitors

Song, "Our Own Lake Ilo Blue" ..... Ladies Trio

Dedication Address ..... Mr. M. O. Steen  
Federal Aid Inspector, Minneapolis, Minnesota  
"The Man Who Made Lake Ilo Possible"

The Dedication March. ....

Dedication Ceremony—The christening of the lake will be  
performed by Miss Ilo Steen, of Minneapolis,  
Minn., in whose honor Lake Ilo was named.







# Union Bank of Dunn Center

Dunn Center, North Dakota



AN INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL  
INSTITUTION

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE  
CORPORATION AND FEDERAL RESERVE  
BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS

T. A. Tollefson, President      Herman Leutz, Vice President

O. T. Evenson, Cashier

## GENERAL PROGRAM

### Dedication Celebration

At Lake Ilo, Dunn Center, July 4, 5 and 6

#### Friday, July 4th

Opening of Lake Ilo for Fishing at Sunrise  
Free Boat Riding for Young and Old . . Variety of Amusements  
11:00 a. m. Independence Day Oration by H. M. Pippin of Halliday,  
2:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m. Water Games and Contests, Tug of  
War  
4:00 p. m. Bowery Dance—Music by the Red Jackets of Dickinson,  
North Dakota

#### Saturday, July 5th

10:30 a. m. Soft Ball Games . . . Free Admission  
2:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m. Water Games and Contests; Swim-  
ming, Boating and Fishing  
4:00 p. m. Big Bowery Dance  
Free Acrobatic Stunts Afternoon and Evening  
Northern Exposition Shows All Day and Night

#### Sunday, July 6th Dedication Program

Master of Ceremonies—H. M. Pippin

10:30 a. m. Band Concert  
11:00 a. m. Song, Star Spangled Banner, Audience  
Introductory Remarks by Master of Ceremonies  
Main Speakers . . .  
Burnie Maurik, Director Fish and Wildlife Service,  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
M. O. Steen, Federal Aid Inspector, Minneapolis,  
Minnesota  
Frank Van Kent, Refuge Manager, Kenmare, N. D.  
12:00 M. Dedication Ceremony  
2:00 p. m. to 5:00 p. m. Water Carnival . . . Prizes to Winning  
Contestants  
Contests such as Diving, Distance Swimming Races,  
Pie Eating, Water Tug-of-War, etc.  
4:00 p. m. Bowery Dance  
Free Acrobatic Stunts Afternoon and Evening  
Northern Exposition Shows All Day and Night  
Fireworks 9:00 p. m.—Beautiful Water Effects  
Band Concerts Throughout the Day



# THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK

OF DICKINSON

An independent financial institution serving the Western Slope country for over a half century in commercial, agriculture and livestock industries.

MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION  
AND FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF MINNEAPOLIS

A. Hilliard, President . . . Dr. A. P. Nachtwey, Vice President and  
Chairman of Board of Directors  
T. A. Tollefson, Cashier  
O. F. Hennings, G. E. Tollefson, F. L. Reardon, R. R. Bertsch  
Assistant Cashiers

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DICKINSON, N. DAK.

**SINCLAIR**  
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**KENDALL**  
**OIL**

THE HOME OF  
Lifetime Guaranteed  
**USED CARS**

## The Occident Elevator

Started to do business at Dunn Center in 1914, when they built a new elevator when the town started, buying grain and selling flour, feed and coal. There were three elevators here at that time. In 1933 the old elevator burned down and a new structure was erected on a new site; a most modern and up-to-date elevator on the North Line. Our motto has always been to do business on a fair and square basis. Since we have acquired the old Powers elevator and also built a gasoline station for service to the farm community. Besides selling gas and oil, we sell flour, feed, chick and turkey mash, salt, twine and seed. This is one of the main business places in Dunn Center. We invite our friends to come and celebrate the dedication of Lake Ilo on July 5th and 6th.

**CARL SWORD, Manager**  
Dunn Center, North Dakota

---

## SAX MOTOR COMPANY

**Sales & Service . . . Phone 25**

We always have a good variety of  
Used Cars on hand

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W. C. Pelton, 55 years a resident of Stark and Dunn counties, 41 years of which have been in Dunn county.

Farmer and stockman, insurance agent, twenty-four years a member of the school board, six years a member of the county committee of the Dunn County Agricultural Conservation Association.

---

### THE CITY CLUB

BEER, WINES, LIQUORS, SOFT DRINKS  
ICE CREAM, CONFECTIONERY

H. W. Walker, Proprietor

Halliday, North Dakota

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**BEST BEERS, WINES, LIQUORS**  
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**WHERE YOU GET THE BEST THINGS TO EAT**

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The Western Store for Western  
People

**Groceries and Meats**

**Ice Cream      Pop**

**Arthur Anderson, Prop.**

## DUNN CENTER

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Senster Anderson

HALLIDAY  
Hartwick Anderson

# HINTZ CONFECTIONERY

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## FOUNTAIN SERVICE

Fresh Candy and Pop Corn

Cigars - Cigarettes

Home-made Pastry

Lunches

## First Store in Dunn Center



The Spring Valley Times, local newspaper, carried in its first issue on May 30, 1913, the heading "FIRST STORE IN DUNN CENTER". That was the beginning of the Thompson's Store in Dunn Center, one year before the railroad came here. Yet today, you can pick up a paper and see an advertisement for Thompson's Store, after twenty-eight years of business.

Thompson's Store hasn't been an over-night proposition as the twenty-eight years of business certifies, but has been a progressive institution in the community. The motto of the store has always been . . . Quality Merchandise Backed by the Personal Guarantee of the Merchandise It Sells. It today carries a complete line of Groceries, Fruits and Vegetables, Meats, Dry Goods and Shoes.

It is a great feeling of satisfaction and gratitude to see our old customers come in each day, after so many years of business relations and also very pleasing to have added so many new customers.

*Thompson Stores*

*Elina Thompson - Maurice Thompson*  
*Gordon Thompson*

## VRANNA AUTO SUPPLY CO. Inc.

AUTO ACCESSORIES

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Gas and Oil . . . Goodyear Tires

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Compliments of

**J. A. BERDAHL**

Agent

**Northern Pacific Railway**

**Dunn Center, N. D.**



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## DeSoto-Plymouth Cars

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Electric & Gas Welding

General Repairing

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Blacksmith Shop on Rear of Lot

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Pedersen & Fockler, Proprietors

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**Eight Pages of Colored Comics**  
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Alley Oop Myra North

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WAY**

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**WELCOME to OPAL WILLIAMS CAFE**

Richardton, North Dakota

**FOR GOOD MEALS AND LUNCHES**



HOLT PRINTING CO. BISMARCK, N. D.



Ducks leaving the spring on the shore of the  
School Section Slough. Section 16, T159N,R91W.



Lake Ilo spillway -  
discharging 6-11-41



Lake Ilo spillway -  
from upstream side  
6-11-41.



Control culvert to  
Lee Paul Slough  
6-7-41





Diversion ditch and control at Lake Patricia -  
view from east side.



Diversion ditch and control at Lake Patricia -  
view from west side ( a maintenance problem)





Diversion ditch and control at Lake Patricia -  
view from east side.



Diversion ditch and control at Lake Patricia  
view from west side (a maintenance problem)

7-2-41

QUARTERLY NARRATIVE REPORT

FOR

EASEMENT REFUGES DISTRICT IV

February - April 1941

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Lake Ilo  
I. General.

A. Weather Conditions: The weather for this period has been similar to that at the Des Lacs Refuge, both experiencing a late wet spring.

No weather station is located in this vicinity and it is not possible to provide a record of the precipitation and temperatures.

B. Water Conditions: The lake is in good condition having regained its last years level. The water level on April 13 was 15 inches below spillway crest which is comparable with that reported for the same date a year ago. We are pleased to report that we were successful in getting a fairly adequate amount of water into the Paul Slough area southeast of the lake proper by doing some ditching downstream from the culvert bridge.

II. Wildlife.

Mr. Dinkins reports the following spring observations:

- 4-2-41 2,000 ducks present; 7 Canada Geese and 112 White-fronted Geese.
- 4-7-41 275 geese present.
- 4-21-41 6,000 ducks were estimated to be present including Mallards, Gadwall, Baldpate, Pintail, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Shovellers, Redhead, Canvasback, Scaup, Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ruddy, Merganser, and White Pelican.
- 4-30-41 300 White Pelican on the lake.

III. Refuge Development and Maintenance.

WPA: The WPA crew working on the refuge averaged eight men for the period. Work accomplished was varied, including the following:

Scoria was hauled from a pit on the refuge and was used to



surface refuge roads. Some clay was also used to bind the scoria.

Work was done on the cabin addition virtually completing it except for exterior painting and a few minor finishing touches.

Some landscaping was also done at the headquarters site. Buffalo grass sod was transplanted in the yard around the cabin. 20 lilac shrubs, 20 small white pine trees, and 10 blue spruce trees were planted.

The crew worked on the spillway hauling clay which was placed in front of the spillway crest where the clay core had settled. Six men worked for two days enlarging the control ditch between the lake proper and Lee Paul Slough.

Personnel: Mr. Dinkins continued to devote a good part of his time to the supervision of the WPA crew but in addition managed to do a gratifying amount of work himself.

His duties included the usual maintenance work on the Government buildings and equipment. A patrol of the refuge for muskrats revealed that there were only 50 to 100 present and these were on the creeks above and below the lake, consequently they are not a problem at present.

Considerable work was done on the interior of the cabin painting, and sanding and varnishing floors.

The boats were overhauled and painted.

The white easement refuge name signs were cleaned and repainted.

Two trips were made to the Des Lacs Refuge for supplies and conferences with the Refuge Manager.

An inspection of the easement refuges in District IV was begun on April 1 and continued on the 3rd, 11th, and 24th. Repair work was done wherever needed.

The addition to the cabin has made this residence much more satisfactory. Progress on this job was slow due to the fact that the WPA crew were not particularly qualified as carpenters. A good job was done however, but it was necessary that Mr. Dinkins supervise the work more closely than would ordinarily be necessary. This building now lacks only the installation of a light and water system to make it a completely modern building.

#### Bird Banding.

Some 90 ducks, all Mallards, were trapped during February. Of these 43 were new birds.

#### Notes on Other Easement Refuges

##### White Lake. 4-1-41.

Water: The water level was 1.4 ft. below spillway crest, the water having raised .2 this spring.

Wildlife: There were only a few ducks on the lake, including the following: 3 Green-winged Teal, 2 Blue-winged Teal, 16 Mallards, and 25 Pintails.

Maintenance: Dam and spillways are in good condition. The fence around the dam was repaired where drifting snow had broken it. There were some signs of muskrats near the south spillway but no damage was being done.

##### Stewart Lake. 4-1-41.

Water: The water level was .4 higher than it was last fall and 1.5 lower than last spring.

Wildlife: 300 Pintails, 150 Mallards, 30 Blue-winged Teal, 20 Ring-billed Gulls, 2 Goldeneye, and 5 Mergansers were present.

Maintenance: The dam and spillway are in good condition with no sign of muskrat damage.

Charles Lake. 4-3-41.

Water: A small stream of water was going over the spillway. The water had been running over the spillway for several days but did not appear to have exceeded its flow on the date of inspection.

Wildlife: 37 Canada Geese and 300 ducks, mostly Pintail were seen.

Maintenance: The dam appeared to be in good condition. The spillway was in good condition with the exception of several cracks in the east downstream rubble masonry wingwall. It will probably be necessary to have a small WPA crew assist in the repair work on this structure.

Pretty Rock Lake. 4-3-41.

Water: The water level was 10 inches below spillway crest, which is the highest it has been since the dam was built.

Wildlife: 300 Pintails, 200 Mallards, 7 Goldeneye, 30 Canvasback, and 23 Mergansers were observed.

Maintenance: The dam and spillway were in fair condition.  
Lake Patricia. 4-3-41.

Water: The water level was 2.5 feet below spillway crest. The runoff was good but it appears that the diversion ditch could not take enough water during the runoff to fill the lake.

Wildlife: 150 White-fronted Geese, and 600 ducks consisting of Mallards, Pintails, Shovellers, Green and Blue-winged Teal, Scaup, and Canvasback were present.

Maintenance: Some trash in the diversion ditch was cleaned out.  
Lake Oliver. 4-4-41.

Water: Small stream of water going over spillway and it



appeared that the water had run over the spillway about six inches deep this spring.

Wildlife: 1200 ducks, 37 White-fronted Geese, and 17 Cranes were seen.

Maintenance: The dam was in good condition. The spillway is cracked badly and will need repair work.

Legion Lake. 4-11-41.

Water: The water was going over the spillway four inches deep.

Wildlife: 500 Scaup, 38 Ring-billed Gulls, 300 Pintails, and 150 Mallards were present.

Maintenance: Dam and spillway were both in good condition.

Hiddenwood Lake. 4-11-41.

Water: The water raised one foot this spring, the lake being higher than ever before.

Wildlife: 50 Pintails and 30 Mallards were observed.

Maintenance: There being no structure here the only maintenance problem here is posting.

Lake Susie. 4-11-41.

Water: The water was running over the spillway about a half inch deep.

Wildlife: 400 Scaup, 33 Redhead, and 600 Mallards and Pintails were seen. There were also a few gulls and shorebirds.

Maintenance: A crack in the west downstream wingwall will have to be filled with tar and hemp. There were some signs of muskrat damage; one hole was dug out and refilled with dirt.

Shell Lake. 4-24-41.

Water: The lake was full and a two foot stream of water was flowing down Shell Creek.

Wildlife: There were about 2,000 ducks on the area. Among them were Mallards, Gadwall, Baldpate, Pintail, Green-winged Teal, Shoveller, Canvasback, Scaup, Goldeneye, Bufflehead, Ruddy.

Maintenance: No structure on this area.

Clearwater Lake. 4-24-41.

Water: The water level was six inches higher than it was last spring.

Wildlife: 3 Baldpate, 2 Blue-winged Teal, 5 Pintail, 6 Shovellers, 64 Scaup, 4 Sharp-tailed Grouse, 5 Killdeer, and 2 Avocets were seen.

Maintenance: No structure on this area.



View of Lake Ilo cabin, showing addition -  
looking west.



View of Lake Ilo cabin, showing addition -  
looking east.





View of the Lake Ilo cabin, showing addition -  
looking southwest.



View of Lake Ilo cabin, showing addition -  
looking southeast.

Lake Zahl - shot  
upstream from  
spillway.



Lake Zahl-taken  
from dam looking  
northwest after  
runoff.

Lake Zahl - view of  
north units after  
runoff.



1941.  
noted under effect  
Lake Sent - Lake Sent



1941.  
noted under effect  
Lake Sent - Lake Sent

1941.  
noted under effect  
Lake Sent - Lake Sent